A Philoſophical

DISCO

Blazoning

Blazing

Divided into

The I. Treating on *Colour*, *Motion*, *Sci*
fication of *COM*

II. Contains the Progno
ral, and of this in par
CHRONOLOGY of
laſt 400 years.

III. Conſiſts of (1.) the
Concerns of this CO
Precepts and Preſi
plication of its pro
trologically and Theo

By *Chriſtopher Neſſe*,

and Divine

URSE

upon this

STAR:

Three Parts;

the *Product*, *Form*,
tuation, and *Signi-*
ETS.

ſticks of *Comets* in Gene-
ticular; together with a
all the Comets for the

Explication of the grand
MET by Aſtrological
dents. (2.) The *Ap-*
bable Prognoſticks Aſ-
logically.

Miniſter of the Goſpel,
in *London*, 1681.

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in *London*, 1681.

VI.

A

Full and True ACCOUNT

Of the Late

BLAZING-STAR:

With ſome probable Prognoſticks upon what may be its Effects.

BIBLIOTHECA BODLEIANA OXONIENSIS

A Blazing Star is called a *Comet* from the Latin word *Coma*, the Hair, becauſe it ſeemeth to ſend forth Streamers of flaming Hair to thoſe that behold it a far off. There be various Opinions of Authors concerning thoſe *Comets*: ſome whereof are ſo improbable, that only to report them, is enough to refute them. As, 1. *Democritus* dreamed that *Comets* were the Souls of famous Men triumphing in Heaven. 2. *Thaddeus* thinketh that they are the Secrets of Nature, and (like the occult Quality of Philoſophers) ought not to be enquired after. 3. *Paracelſus* ſuppoſeth that they are Fires carried about by Spirits which are conſcious of their own Fates. 4. *Anaxagoras* imagines them to be a Conjunct Apparition of Planets; becauſe when Planets come near together they ſeem to touch one another, and that Conjunction of 2 or 3 Lights into one, cauſeth the *Phænomenon*, or Appearance of a longer Star; which by varying its Place, varieth its Form alſo. 5. *Appianus* and *Prætorius* (both) acknowledge that *Comets* are Meteors, or Vapours exhaled, yet deny that they are inflamed, or ſet on fire in their own Bodily Matter, but only enlightned by the Refract Rays of the Sun and other Stars, both upon its Body and Tail. 6. But this laſt Opinion of *Ariſtotle* is moſt probable; that a *Comet* is a Fiery Meteor made up of Copious, Viſcous and Fat Vapours, drawn up into the higheſt Region of the Air by the influence of the Sun and Stars; and then when it is ripened, taketh Fire, and ſhineth in the Figure of a Star, to

the Aſtoniſhment of all its Beholders. Beſides thoſe (prõperly called) *Comets* engendred in the Elementary Region, it is ſuppoſed there be ſome other new Stars ſometimes ſeen above the Moon in the Ætherial Region, ſuch as that which appeared in *Caſſiopæa*, in the Year 1574. every way like a Star in Form and Light, ſave only its Splendor and Magnitude exceeded the greateſt of Planets. This could not properly be called a *Comet*: 1. Becauſe it removed not from that Point of Heaven wherein it firſt appeared, but kept conſtant in the Conſtellation till it diſappeared. 2. Becauſe it continued in view for a whole Year, and more than a Quarter. 3. Becauſe it had neither Hair nor Tail or Train, as *Comets* have; which likewiſe remove from one part of Heaven to another, and never continue ſo long as that did. 'Tis not improbable that ſuch new Stars God (for a time) withdraws from Men's ſight, that the Sign of his *Anger* or *Favour* might be the more admired: For theſe do not waſte away, as (properly called) *Comets* do; but only lie hid from the Eye, ſeeing Heaven cannot admit of new Bodies. That Star which appeared to the Wiſe Men, *Matth.* 2. was not a Natural, but a Miraculous Star. 1. Becauſe it ſhone not in the Celeſtial, but in the Elementary Region; yea, in the loweſt part of it, ſo as to guide the three Men to a certain Houſe over which it ſtood. 2. Becauſe it had not the Motion of a Natural Star, but ſuch as was Accommodated every way to the Travel of the Wiſe Men. 3. Its Progreſs was unequal, ſometimes *Appearing*, and ſometimes *Diſappearing*. 4. It did not only ſhine forth by *Night*, but alſo by *Day*. Yea, 5. With ſuch a Splendour, as far exceeded, not only that of the Stars, but alſo the Sun it ſelf; as *Ignatius*, *Chriſoſtom*, &c. do teſtifie. Some ſay, that Star in *Matth.* 2. was the Holy Ghoſt which appeared (at Chriſt's Baptiſm) in the Form of a *Dove*, as at his Birth in the Form of a Star, being moſt Conſentaneous to thoſe Eaſtern Sages: For as a mighty Draught of Fiſh was the aptеſt Sign to make *Peter* (a Fiſher-man) to follow Chriſt, ſo this Sign of a Star was beſt accommodated to theſe Men of the Eaſt, it being moſt familiar to them in their frequent Study of the Stars. But more probably *Chriſoſtom* judgeth it was an Angel [ἄνωθεν τινα ἀόρατον] a certain inviſible Power to be the Guide of their Journey, as the Pillar of Glory was *Iſrael*'s in the Wilderneſs, *Exod.* 13. 21, 22.

22. Yea, ſome do affirm that it was the ſame Angel who appeared alſo to the Shephards, *Luke* 2.9. But the Elementary *Comets* cannot (in any proper Senſe) be called Stars (though their common Name be Blazing Stars.) Becauſe, 1. They have a different Form, no way congruous to that of Stars. 2. They grow Greater and Leſſer. 3. They have an Uncertain and Vagabond Motion. 4. Their Matter is an Hot and Dry Exhalation, which is Slimy and Sulphurous; and which being ſpent, they vaniſh away: Thoſe things hold no Congruity with proper Stars. Philoſophy ſaith, that thoſe *Comets* are compoſed of a Matter full of Mettalline or Mineral Vapours, which is both thruſt out of the Bowels of the Earth by an Internal Heat from the Subterraneous Spirits, and extracted thence alſo by an External Heat from the Celeſtial Bodies; whereby likewiſe it is drawn up into the Upper Region. One part of this Fuliginous Smoak, thruſting up, and cleaving cloſe to another, till it become as big as a Mountain, then it hangs pendulouſly, and mellows kindly into a Combuſtible Subſtance. Then takes it fire; and the Colour of that Star by whoſe force it is Generated and Governed: And when all this is done, though it be of a vaſt Magnitude, yet through the great Diſtance of Place, it ſeems to us as a very little Spangle or Spur-Rowel, if ſevered from its Train or Streamer. Touching theſe Comets, Theſe four things are principally conſiderable after their Product or Generation. 1. Their *Form*. 2. Their *Colour*. 3. Their *Motion*. 4. Their *Signification*. 1. Of their *Form*, which is various: one *Comet* hath a *Beard*, another a *Tail*, and a third is *Hairy* round about. This flows from the Flame of the fired Vapour diverſly diſperſed. 1. If it ſpread its Flame upon its former part, then it is called κωμων, *Barbatus*, a Bearded *Comet*, as having the Flame (as a Man's Beard, or a Horſes Main) hanging downward. 2. If from the latter part the Flame ſputter out behind, following after the Body, then it is called *Candatus*, a Tailed *Comet*. But 3. If it ſpit Fire from all parts round about, then is it called *Crinitus*, an Hairy *Comet*, when it is ſurrounded with Rays of Fire, as the Buſhy Head is with Hair. Thus the diverſity of Flames produceth diverſity of Forms in them, yet moſtly ſuch as have Trains or Tails; for the hinder part (being not ſo compact as the former) ſooneſt taketh Fire, and ſputters

out a Flame (as we see in Squibs or Fuzzees) like a long Besom, or the Tail of a Peacock. 2. Of their *Colour*, which Distinction they derive from the Dominion of the Planet in their Generation, which may easily be discerned by their various Colours. *Comets* have their Dusky and Leaden Colour from *Saturn*, Splendid from *Jupiter*, Fiery from *Mars*, Golden from the *Sun*, Silver from the *Moon*, Yellow from *Venus*, and of changeable Colours from *Mercury*: And all these various Colours are supposed to be various Indications of differing Natures, as the Planets (from whence they derive them) do differ in their Natures and Influences one from another. 3. Of their *Motion*. *Comets* are of an Erratick Motion, as the new Stars immitate the fixed Stars, so do *Comets* immitate the Planets in their Motions: Some are moved according to the Motion of the *Primum Mobile* (to speak *ex Hypothesi*) to wit, from East to West; but some slowlier fulfilling that Motion, and others more swiftly exceeding it. Their Motion is therefore called Erratick, because it is not Regular and Certain, as that of the fixed Stars is, whose Rising and Setting are certainly known; but the Motion of Comets is sometimes nearer, and sometimes further off from the *Zodiack*, as the Motion of the Planets is: Yet not altogether as the Planets, which never remove far from the *Zodiack*, but have always certain and well known Bounds of their Motions: whereas *Comets* have an Irregular Motion, and (as to the *Zodiack*) plainly Eccentrick, wandring far from it in their remote Appearances; and though Motion from East to West be Regular, yet this happens by Accident, only because the Upper Region of the Air (wherein *Comets* are both Engendred and Fired) is whirl'd about with the Heavens; hence the Comet therein wheels about with it. 4. Of their *Signification*. The principal thing intended, to wit, the Prognosticks of them. 'Tis true, there be some who deny altogether their Significancy; as *Erastus*, *Gryneus*, and others: but 'tis too too manifest that *Comets* are not mute things, but that they are Signs which God placeth in Heaven, to preach something to Men on Earth. No Man in his right Mind can say, that the most wise God doth make any thing in vain, or that the Father of Lights should hang out such a strange and stupendious Light

up

up aloft (to be ſeen far and wide) and this not to portend ſome extraordinary thing. Conſult Antiquity, there is found. 1. That Greek Proverb, [ἀδελὶς κομήτης ὅστις ἀ κακὸν φέρει.] *There is no Comet which brings not ſome Evil.* 2. That Verſe of *Manilius*,

[*Nunquam Futilibus Reſplenduit Ignibus Æther.*]

God never Fires his Beacon (ſet upon ſo high a Hill) but thoſe below had need look to themſelves. 3, That other Trite Verſe (which is a *Synonymon & Symbolizeth* with the two former

Et Nunquam Cœlo Spectati Impune Cometæ

That is, never doth the Earth 'ſcape Scot-free, when Heaven holds forth a Blazing Star to her View. This is confirmed by all Hiſtories, eſpecially thoſe of later Times, whereof I could give many Inſtances. The Chronology of *Comets* (to go no higher than the 13*th* Century after Chriſt to this preſent) doth afford us moſt Direful Effects of many *Comets* frequently appearing within that compaſs of time, a particular Account whereof a ſingle ſheet cannot compleatly comprehend, eſpecially to Diſcourſe upon them all, *Phiſically*, *Politically* and *Theologically*,. The *Rules* of this *Aſtrological Art* (whereby to make Right Prognoſtications) muſt be acknowledged to be Obſcure and Doubtful to Inſtance in that one Aſtrological Axiom [*That the* Prognoſticks *of* Comets *do depend all upon* Mars *and* Mercury.] [illegible] is hard to be Demonſtrated, for none can prove what is the Influence of this or that Star in Heaven, as they may the Operation of *Rhubarb* or other Druggs on Earth; Yet *Ptolomy* (with others) make this Maxime (aforeſaid) thus far probable, ſaying, The Effects of *Comets* (which are rarely Good, but moſtly Evil) are of two ſorts, 1. Such things as are Savage, Bloody, Mortiferous, &c. (portended by them) be aſcribed to *Mars*, and other things that are Inconſtant, Moveable and Uncertain, be aſcribed to *Mercury*. The Aſſertion here may be *true*, though the Application be *falſe*; for *Aſtrologorum Decreta non ſunt prætoria*; their Rules are not Infallible, yet Examples have more perſpicuity and certainty in them, I ſhall only give the two laſt and lateſt Exemplifications of *Comets*, the one in 1664, and the other in 1677. That in 64 was a forerunner of moſt Dreadful Diſpenſations, as the *Sweeping peſtilence* in 65. and the *Swallowing fire* in 66. The former falls fowl upon Perſons, the latter upon

on Habitations. The last in 1677. was a forerunner of the most Damnable Plot (yea a Complication of Plots) that ever Hell invented: Now God hath lighted up another Torch to give us a new Warning, that being forewarned we might be forearmed also, especially with those Arms of the Church, to wit, *prayers* and *Tears* (our *Desperate Malady* hath not yet met with an *Effectual Remedy*) lest those Matchless Mischiefs which are Imminent over us may not also be Incumbent on us. There is certainly something more than ordinary God hath upon the Wheel, to lighten up such a Blaze as this in the very depth of Winter, which is a time Diametrically contrary to the very Nature of *Comets*, for Cold and Moist Weather is altogether unapt to produce those Hot and Dry Vapours whereof a *Comit* consisteth. A Winter *Comet* is therefore like Winter *Thunder*, which is commonly call'd the *Worlds Wonder*: The proper time of engendring those *Meteors* is *Antumn*, for in *Spring-time* there is supposed to be too much Moisture and too little Heat to congregate those Vapours, and in *Summer-ttme* there is so much Heat as plainly Segregate and Disperses those Exhalations, but *Winter-time* is wholly opposite to their existency, and quite contrary to the constituting of them: Therefore this *Extraordinary* and *preternatural sign* must needs signifie some *Extraordinary* and *supernatural thing*, even some Sweeping, Swinging or Scourging, yea some Cutting or Killing Dispensation, for the φαντάσμα or Apparition Extraordinary (which I saw with my own Eyes) had a threefold Resemblance, 1. Of a *Broom*, 2. Of a *Rod*, 3. Of a *Sword*, 1. Of a large *Broom*, or *Besom*, yet Dreadfull to behold by its sparkling Aspect, as if God were coming to Sweep *Babylon* with his dreadful *Besom of Destruction*, as he hath promised, *Isa.* 14, 22, 23. 'Tis true, God hath his [*Scopas purgatorias*, as well as *perditorias*;] his *Brushing*, as well as *Crushing* Besoms. The former is for *Sion*, which God Brushes only for its *Ornament*, the latter is for *Babylon*, which God Crushes also for its *Overthrow*. God grant this *Unclean Spirit* of *Babylon* may be Swept out of our Land, *Zach.* 13. 2. Even by a Parliamentary Besom. 2. Of a long and *fiery Rod*, wherewith God may Swinge or Scourge the Inhabitants of the Earth: God may indeed Chastize *Sion* with *Rods* (gently and favourably as a Father his Children, not to break their Bones, but

their

their Stomachs,) but God will Scourge *Babylon* with Scorpions, as 1 *King.* 12.11. He will break her with his *Rod of Iron, Pſal.* 2. 9. like a Potters Veſſel, that can never be patcht together again: She ſhall feel the weight of God's mighty hand upon her, to Cruſh her to pieces, and to Grind her to Powder. 3. Of a *prodigious flaming Sword*, poſſibly not unlike that which *God placed at the Garden of* Eden, *turning every way to keep the Gate thereof, Gen.* 3. 24. There the [Cherub] or Angel had [Lahat Chereb] a Flaming Sword, a great Elegancy in the Hebrew, and a Material Sword made of Steel; if brandiſht. will Dart out bright and dazling flames, according to that of *Vorgils Æniad.* 8. [*Ipſem Terribilem flammaſque Vomentem*] God bleſs us from this Material and Brandiſht flame Vomiting or Glittering Sword, *Ezek.* 21, 9, 10, 14, 28. God may call for ſuch a Sword, *Ezek.* 38, 21. *Levit.* 26. 25. If we give no better Audience and Obedience (than we have done) to the Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God, *Eph.* 6. 17. as we have ſmarted under the Sword of the Angel, which is the Peſtilence, 1 *Chron.* 21. 16. 27. So God may bring upon us the Sword of the Enemy, whoſe Mercies are Cruelties. Oh God forbid that he ſhould Hiſs for the Flies of *Egypt* to bite us, or the See of *Babylon* (which is worſe) to ſting us, *Iſa.* 7. 18. The Star (it ſelf) that ſhouteth forth this flaming Sword, I have not beheld, it being as yet hid in the Sun-beams, going down a little after the Sun, a little before the New Moon, and a little before Fiery *Mars*, being not far from all theſe three in the Horizon, nigh to *Aquila* and to the *Milken Ally*: All which would afford over curious and too critical Speculations, according to the Rules of Aſtrological Art, which I therefore omit. Though *Comets* (in themſelves ſimply conſiderate, or in their Houſes wherein they are ſeen) do not make future Events uncontroulably legible, yet when they are placed in Conjunction with the Sacred Scripture, they are not without their proper Inſtruction, but foretell ſingular things, provided the word of God (who is the Creator of *Comets*) be the Rule of that Interpretation. Though we Chriſtians ſhould not be afraid of the ſign of Heaven, as the Blind Heathen were, *Jer.* 10. 2. Yet may we not altogether deſpiſe thoſe Divine Monitors and footſteps of Providence (though obſcure) ſeeing 'tis God's Method (frequently,

quently Recorded in Hiſtory) that when he is about to puniſh a City or Nation, he is wont to give them warning thereof firſt by ſome previous Prodigies, and to hang out ſome Conſpicuous ſigns of Divine Diſpleaſure in the Air, to be beheld of all Men: And though *Comets* (for the moſt part) are loud Preachers from Heaven (which Popiſh Prelates cannot ſilence) of Gods wrath for Mens ſins, yet may they publiſh Joy to ſome, as well as ſorrow to others, for the Setting of one may be the Riſing of another; the Falling of Old Favourites may be the Riſe of New ones; as *Haman*'s fall was *Mordecai*'s riſe. Thus the *Tiburtine* Sybel Interpreted that *Comet* (of a vaſt bigneſs) that appeared at Chriſt's Birth, ſaying, [*Hic puer major te eſt, &c.*] This Child that is now born is greater than thee. O *Roman* Emperour, and he comes to ſet up a Kingdom that ſhall deſtroy the *Roman* Kingdom. Might we have the ſame liberty to ſuppoſe this ſtrange Star to be an Angel, as ſome do that in *Mat.* 2. 2, 9, 10. Then hath He a drawn flaming Sword in his hand Ready to deſtroy our *Jeruſalem*, as that Angel had, 1 *Chron.* 21. 16. Oh pray, pray, pray that God may repent him of that Evil, and ſay to the Angel, 'Tis enough, ſtay thy hand and put up thy Sword into its ſheath, *v.* 97. and 2 *Sam.* 24. 16. but ſuppoſe it ſuch an Angel as ſtood in *Balaam's* perverſe way with a drawn Sword in his hand, *Numb.* 22. 23. or rather that Angel of the Covenant, out of whoſe mouth cometh a ſharp Sword, *Rev.* 19. 15, 21. Oh pray, pray, that this Sword may ſlay not only the grand *Balaam* of *Rome*, but even *Babylon* too, and all her proud Helpers, as he hath there both Prophecyed and Promiſed: This is the Hearty Prayer of *C. N.*

London, Printed for *J. Wilkins*, and *J. Sampſon*, 1680.

A

Second SHEET, further Blazoning upon the

Blazing-ſtar.

With a Chronology of COMETS for the laſt 400 years.

HAving ſpoken to the *Products*, *Form*, *Colour*, *Motion* and *Signification* of Blazing-ſtars, in the firſt Sheet: A further Account of the Prognoſticks of *Comets* in General, and of this preſent COMET in particular (which the firſt Sheet could not contain) I inſert and ſend forth in this: The General Prognoſticks of COMETS (according to the beſt Rules of Aſtrology) are deduced from an Ancient and Receiv'd Triſtich or 3 Latin Verſes.

Octo Cometa Mala hæc fulgendo per Æthera Signat
Ventus, Sterilitas, Aqua, Peſtis prædominantur
Rixa, Tremor, Moritur Dux, Fit Mutatio Regni.

This plain, yet pithy Poetry doth (in our native Language) ſignify, That Comets Blazing in the Air doth portend 8 ſeveral Miſchiefs, as the Predominancy, 1. Of Storms and Tempeſts. 2. Of Drought and Dearth. 3. Of great Floods and Inundations. 4. Of Plague and Peſtilence. 5. Of Troubleſome Fears and Jealouſies. 6. Of Quarrels and Contentions 7. Of the Death of great Captains, 8. Of Alterations in States and Kingdoms. Thoſe Prognoſtications in general are not altogether improbable, if conſidered either, 1. *Phyſically*, 2. *Politically*, or 3 *Theologically*, by a Judicious mind: 1. *Phyſically* conſidered, ſo *Comets* (probably) are not only natural *Signs*, but alſo natural *Cauſes* moſtly of *much Evil*, though ſometimes they may be alſo of *much Good*. 'Tis a Maxim in Philoſophy, That natural Cauſes

muſt

muſt produce the like natural Effects: now it may be rationally argued, That *Comets* are Natural Cauſes (as well as Signs) 1. Of *Drought*, *Dearth*, *Plague*, &c. 1. Becauſe (without a great Heat, a *Comet* cannot be incorporated, and much moiſture muſt of neceſſity be conſumed by its flames when once it is fired: This, as the Cauſe, produceth *Drought* as its effect, and *Drought* brings forth *Dearth*, 2. Becauſe the Fatneſs (and ſo by conſequence the Fertility or Fruitfulneſs) of the Earth is exhaled, not only to the compounding of the Comet (whereof it is moſtly conſtituted, as in the firſt Sheet) but alſo exhauſted by the continued Flames of the long burning Comet ſo near to it, as the Region of the Air is; then follows the *Plague* as another *Effect* of *Drought* and *Dearth*) all thoſe Three having a mutual connection each with the other and producing one another. 3. Becauſe ſo many hot and dry Vapours and Exhalations (as muſt make up the mountanous maſs of a Comet) come to be fired and ſo diſperſed higher and nether in the Upper Region, they cannot but corrupt the Air whereby the Bodies of men and beaſts are infected: this brings peſtilential Diſeaſes. *Secondly*, *Comets* in like manner do not only naturally *portend*, but alſo *produce* horrible Tempeſts, dreadful Earthquakes, &c. *becauſe* in ſuch a Maſſy multitude of Exhalations there muſt be *much* that cannot take Fire and be wholy conſum'd (as we ſee in *igne culinari*, in our Kitching Fire) ſome fewel will ſhuffle out, and eſcape burning, and ſo it may happen in a *mundane* fire) this part therefore that remains unconſum'd, is the engendring Matter of moſt boiſterous Winds, and of moſt terrible Earthquakes, &c. for there is the ſame matter for cauſing the Bluſtering Wind above the Earth, that there is for a dreadful Earthquake within it: *becauſe* when thoſe remaining Vapours of the *Comet* do flutter abroad in the Air, they do engender Storms, but when thoſe Fumes do fall into the Caverns of the Earth, and come to be pent up therein, by an *Antiperiſtaſin* both increaſed and inraged they do naturally endeavour an Inlargement, which, they do with that mighty Violence, as ſhaketh the Earth: Now ſeeing thoſe Phyſical preſages ſeem ſo probable, I cannot find Reaſon enough to render the *Political* and *Theological* preſa-

ges

ges (which are the 2d and 3d) less probable than the first: especially considering how the Manners of mens minds do follow mostly the Temperament of their Bodies. As that Adage in Greek (post λιμὸν λοιμός) *after Dearth comes the Plague*, is Rational, for Food corrupted must fill mens bodies with many malignant Humours. So 'tis no less rational to affirm, That when those Vicious fumes of Comets are conveyed into the Blood and Spirits of Mens Bodies, and so infect them with much Choler and Melancholy, thence must necessarily arise much *Envy*, *Hatred*, *sharp Contests*, and Land destroying *Wars*. 'Tis not at all dissonant from Truth, That those hot and dry Vapours dispersed by the Comets combustion should stir up Anger in Cholerick Constitutions. And out of *Anger* ariseth *Quarrels*, out of *Quarrels*, *Conquests*, and out of *Conquests* strange *Changes* both in Church and State. And I see not, but that *Comets* may portend the Death of *Great men*, for their Intemperance, Delicious fare, (of all sorts) and Exorbitancies in Pleasures, Night-watchings, &c. (wherewith they do commonly indulge themselves above all men) must needs expose them most to contract the worst of Distempers. The more Luxuriously any men live, the sooner they must be infected with the Contagion of Comets. Yea *Bartholine* boldly Asserteth, That Comets are Signs sent on purpose to premonish Princes of their Ruin without Repentance and Reformation.

The Probability of those Prognostications by Comets may be best Demonstrated by an Induction of Instances and Examples drawn out of Chronological History of *Comets*: And to go no higher therein than those last foregoing Centuries near to our own Times; I find most marvelous Testimonies there recorded,

As, (I.) in the year 1347. a Comet appeared not far from the Bulls Eye; After which follow'd such a dreadful sickness, that raged all the World over, and continued forty years together: Insomuch, that (as Authors say) it destroy'd the Third part of men in *Europe*.

(II.) In the year 1363. a *Blazing star* broke forth, and brandished its bright Beams all-abroad for 3 Months together: Im-

mediately after which, Ariſeth that *burning* and *ſhining Light* Dr. *John Wicklif*, who was as an Angel ſent from Heaven for a marvelous Reformation on earth. So that *Comets*, as is aforeſaid) portend *good* as well as *evil*: for the Conſumption of ſuch a multitude of hurtful Vapours as paſſeth away in the Expiration of a *Comet*, why may it not (if only it be conſidered *phyſically* or *naturally*) have *good* Effects as well as *evil?* eſpecially, if it be conſidered *politically* and *theologically*; thus, no *Comet* can be ſo obnoxious, but as it portends Sorrow to ſome, ſo it doth Joy to others, as this did, which was a *Cordolium* to the Romaniſts, but a *Cordial* to thoſe of the Reformed Religion

(III.) In the Year 1375. There appeared another frightful *Comet*, which had ſuch infinite Swarms of Locuſts following it, as almoſt deſtroy'd the Kingdom of *France*, in all the Fruites thereof, as if God had ſent one of the Ten Plagues of *Ægypt* upon it, *Exod.* 10. 14. his formidable Army, *Joel* 2. 4. 10. 11. *Locuſt* hath its name in Hebrew from *Multitude*, wherewith the very Sun is darken'd as with a mighty Cloud, and the Green things of the Earth ſo devoured, that the *Ægyptians* make the *Locuſt* their Hieroglyphick for *Famine*, becauſe of both their *numeroſity* and *Voracity*. And as the *Locuſts* of *Ægypt* were all *drowned in the Red Sea*, as well as Reſtrain'd from *Goſhen*; So thoſe *Locuſts* aforeſaid, had the *Britiſh* Sea, not only (through Divine Grace) for their *Boundary* beyond which they could not paſs) but alſo for their *Sepulchre*, wherein they were (with a moſt *Hideous ſtorm*) *all driven*, and wherein alſo they were (with a moſt horrible noiſe) all drowned.

(IV.) In the year 1390. Another *Comet* Blazeth out, after which did follow a moſt furious Peſtilence in this our Nothern Region; ſo exceedingly outragious it was, that in a very little ſpace of time a Thouſand and ſome Hundreds dyed of the *Plague* in that one City of *York*.

(V.) In the year 1400.

[VI.) In the year 1401.

(VII.) In the year 1402.

(VII.) And in the year 1403. All thoſe ſeveral *years*, (Immediatly Succeeding one another) produced ſeveral *Comet* Succeſſively,

ceſſively, and portending great things, for at that time, *Tamberlan* deſtroy'd the Turkiſh Empire, and *John Hus*, (with *Jerom* of *Prage*) began their famous Reformation in *Bohemia*, from whence many Tumults aroſe, and afterwards brave *Ziſca* waged War ſucceſsfully againſt thoſe who call themſelves CATHOLICKS, whereas CACOLICKS is their more proper Title:

Then (IX.) In the year [1458.] Another *Comet* broke forth in the ſign of the *Bull*. After which that Fat *Bull* of *Baſhan* (the Pope) dyed, and *Alphonſus* King of *Arragon*, and in the following year *James* King of *Scotland*.

(X.) In the year [1472] Another *Blazing Star* appeared in the ſign call'd *Libra*, which was firſt of a ſlow motion until it came to *Arcturus*, and then it Ran ſwiftly through the whole Hemiſphere between the Poles of the Zodiack and the Æquinoctial. And laſtly when it Blaz'd about from the thirteenth of *January* to the laſt of *February*, it Blaz'd out its laſt in *Aries*, as if that Battering *Ram* had batterd it into nothing; After which many Princes and great men (too long to Relate) dyed, and ſo to be weighed in Heavens *Libra* or *Ballance*, wherein this *Comet* Appeared.

Again, (XI.) In the year [1477.] A *Saturnine Comet* (of a dusky leaden Complexion) appeared; which was attended with ſo great a Drought, that not only the *Corn* in the Fields, but the *Trees* in the Woods were plainly Burnt and Withred, yea many deep and broad *Rivers*, were wholly Dryed up, as if the Flames of that *Comet*, had been another *Behemoth* to Drink whole Rivers dry. Likewiſe a moſt noiſom Plague followed this, and the Death of many Princes.

Alſo, (XII.) In the year 1491.

And XIII.) in the year 1492. Two *Comets* appeared, both which were forerunners of an horrible *Murrain* of Cattle, and of a fatal Mortality of many Princes.

(XIV.) In the year 1500. A *Comet* having a Northern Latitude, blazed forth in *April*, under the ſign of *Capr corn* for 15 days, then followed the Famine and Peſtilence in *Germany*, then Pope *Paul* was puſh'd down (as with the Horns of *Capricorn*, whe

where the Comet appeared) from his *Infallible Chair*, to his *more Infallible Grave*, then dyed alſo the King of *Swedetand*, and the Queen of *Bohemia*, with many other Princes.

XV. In the year 1522. Another *Comet* of a Saturnine colour (as before) broke forth, which uſhered in a moſt dreadful Plague, and that Sweating Sickneſs which was moſt peculiar to Engliſh Bodies, dogging them (as it were) into all Lands.

Again, XVI. In the year 1533. A mighty *Comet* appeared in *July* and *Auguſt*, on the outſide of the *Zodiack*, nigh to the Conſtellation called *Perſeus*, and Streaming its Tail towards the VVeſt; After which follow'd the *Plague*, *Earth-Quake*, and that Monſtrous *Mutiny* at *Munſter* in *Germany*, yea and then did our *Henry* the VIII. Unhorſe the Pope here, by throwing out the Popes Supremacy in *England*.

(XVII.) In the year 1556. A pale *Comet* appeared for two Months, of a moſt ſwift Motion, directing its Courſe from *Spica Virginis* to *Bootes*, from thence again to *Cepheus* and to *Saturn*, (which Planet was then in *Aries*) and then diſappeared: After which came the *Plague*, *Famine*, *Murrain*, &c. but eſpecially thoſe Bloody *Marian* days, wherein ſo many Holy Martyrs were committed to the Mercy of the mercileſs Fire

(XVIII.) In the year 1558. Another pale Comet aroſe, which foreran the Fall of ſome Kings and Queens, and ſome Princes of all Ranks.

(XIX) In the year 1560. Appeared another *Comet* in *December* which foreran a moſt fatal *Plague* here in *London*, the great (and unheard of) Froſt, and many Monſtrous Births in ſeveral Counties of *England*, (with ſundry other Prodigies) followed after.

XX. In the year 1572. A new Star then appeared (mention'd in the firſt ſheet.) After which were thoſe Bloody Butcheries at that Treacherous Royal Marriage at *Paris*, whereat more *Blood* than *Wine* was powred out and Drunk. To Omit (as I have done ſundry for Brevities ſake) thoſe three new Stars which were ſeen in the years 1602. 1604. and 1607. after all which marvelous Mutations and ſtrange Revolutions happened in the World, as Chronological Hiſtories do abundantly declare.

I

I pass on to the year 1618. VVherein the (XXI.) *Comet* blazed forth (even in the VVinter Season) with a very long Tail or Train: After which our Queen *Ann*, and the Emperour of *Germany* departed the VVorld.

Then in the year 1652. The (XXII.) *Comet* (of a *Saturnine* and *Lunar* colour) appeared in *Gemini* near to *Orions Shield*, moving (besides its Diurnal Revolution,) with an oblique motion towards the *Pleiads*, and passing by the Head of *Medusa* (that fatal Star,) It came lastly to *Perseus* where it was almost Vertical to *England*, and there it Vanished: Its Tail tended towards the North-East, and it Appeared not above ten or twelve Days in *December*, and then Disappeared. Now the Products of this Blazing Star, are yet fresh in most mens Memories, in what Motions and Commotions, yea strange Mutations of Monarchy into Aristocracy and of that into Democracy and then into Monarchy again, so that the Land seemed to Ring Changes and all were turned *upside down* both in Church and State.

In the year 1664. the (XXIII.) *Comet* of a Saturnine dusky Complexion) was seen in the beginning of *December*, &c. And the sad effects thereof (in the *Plague* and *Fire* of *London*) are still fresher in the Memories of most men.

Then in the year 1677. Another *Comet* appeared about *April*, the effects whereof were not only VVar at Sea and Land, unheard of Hail-stones, &c. but also the Damnable Popish Plot from which we cannot yet be safe, no not by a Parliamentary Power.

Now in this year 1680. Another (the XXV.) *Comet* appears in *December* also (and I see not why this should not have such severe Significancies (which ought justly to be feared) as well as all those afore said in this Compendious Chronology of Comets, seeing this is one of those Methods and VVays, whereby *God talketh with Man*, not only by the Tongues of his Prophets and Apostles, but also by the very Elements disposed into Divers forms, *Men must hear God in his Works as well as in his Word.*

The best Prospect several Dusky Evenings would allow me to take of this COMET, not a little obscured with the Splendour of the *Moon*, was this, according to my Astrolabe, this Star made

made its first appearance to me in the sign *Pisces*, ascending our Horizon from the Southern Line betwixt *Pegasus*, and the Southern Triangle to *Andromeda*, then it advanced with its exceeding long Train until it got beyond *Medusa's Head*, which is reckoned (by all Authors) an unlucky Constellation. The streamer of this Star (I have observed) hath stretched out it self from the lowest Line of the Hemisphere at the very bottom of the Æquinoctial Colure (below *Pisces*) through the Tropick of *Cancer*, through part of *Perseus* between *Auriga* and *Capella* even to the Solstitial Colure (which is one full quarter of the Cœlestial Globe) until it had a Direct Parallel Line with the North-Pole and the upper end of its Tayl or Train: This therefore, having a greater both Latitude and Longitude (in its Rays) then any I ever saw or lately read off, must needs be the greater Prodigy, and so may produce more prodigious Effects, which may (possibly) be distinctly and particularly spoke to in a third sheet, as wanting Room in this second. In the mean time, How ought this Out-Cry from Heaven [*of Fire, Fire,*] in this astonishing Flame, Rowze us up out of our slumber of Security, that we be not such sottish sensualists as to take no notice of Gods great Works, but grunt at them (*like Swine*) and go our Ways. 'Tis the *Brutish Man that knoweth them Not*. Psal. 92.6. Such Brutish Spirits as *Regard not the Works of the Lord, nor the Operations of his Hands, the Lord will pluck them down and not build them up*, Psal.28.5. Like rotten Ruinous Houses never more to be Rebuilt or Repaired, because they *Regard* not the Works of Gods Hands, God will *Reward them according to the Works of their Hands* v. 4. *Ducunt Volentem Fata Nolentem Trahunt* saith, *Seneca*. The Vast Regions of the Air is as fowly Infected with a stinking malignant Contagion at the extinguishing of a great Comet, as a large Room is with the stinking Snuff of a great Candle, when 'tis rudely Blown out. As *Daniel* said of his dreadful Dream, *Dan.* 4.19. *God almighty bless us* (in this Nation Prince and People) *from the Direful consequences of this Comet, and let them be to those that Hate the Lord and are Enemies to Jesus Christ.* So prays *C. N.* FINIS.

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A third Sheet, ſhewing a further and fuller Blazoning upon this particular BLAZING-STAR.

MY Method in this third Eſſay, ſhall be (firſt,) the *explication* of the grand concerns of this Comet, to wit, its *Colour, Scituation, Motion*, &c. (ſecondly,) the *Application* of its Portents and Significancys: Firſt, the *Explication*, this is done two ways, 1. By Aſtrological *Precepts* or Maxims, 2: By Aſtrological *Preſidents* or *Examples*. (1.) The Apothegms or Rules (which they call Maxims) in Aſtrology, are 1, that there are Prognoſticks *Idiomatick* (which predict the natures and manners of Nations and Metrapolitan Cities) and *Symptomatick* (which preſage the more than ordinary Accidents that befal Countreys and Cities, whether good or evil; the former of theſe two I omit, as not concerning our Comet ſo much as the latter doth: The 2*d*. Rule is, That Comets and other fiery Meteors are always σημαντικα, *Significant*, and never Ασημαντα, or *Inſignificant*. The 3*d*. Rule is, That Comets have the ſtrongeſt Influence upon thoſe Countries and Cities upon which they are moſt Vertical or over their heads in a direct Perpendicular line, and in whoſe Signs they are moſt conſpicuous. The 4*th*. Rule is, The Significancies of Comets are derived from their Colours, which is taken from the Dominion of the Planet in the generating of them, this [ἰδιοσυγκρασια] or proper Temperament of the prædominant Planet is eaſily diſcerned by the complexion or colour of the Comet: If it be red, it borrows that colour from *Mars*, which is predominant in its Generation: if dull and dusky, then 'tis *Saturnine* as before, and ſo of the reſt, and as they have the like *Colour* with this or that Planet, ſo they have the like *Influence*. The 5*th* Rule is, Comets have their Significations from the Signs of the Zodiack wherein they are ſcituated, as if they appear in the Watery Signs, they portend Famine and Plague, if in the Airy Signs, then follow furious Storms and Fractions or Factions; If in the Fiery Sign, then Fire and Sword ſucceed, *&c*. The 6*th*. Rule is, the ſignificancy of Comets is drawn from their diſſering Poſitions to the Sun, for a Morning or Evening Comet portendeth the Death of ſome Prince, but the Eaſtern Comet preſageth a quicker accompliſhment and diſpatch of ſuch a Royal Death than doth a Weſtern one. The 7*th*. Rule is, Prognoſticks of Comets are further taken from their *Motion*: If the Comet be without motion, and be fixed in one point of the Heavens (as that over *Jeruſalem* was, a little before its Deſtruction) it denotes ſome long and laſting evil; if it be moveable from one Sign to another, 'tis an Indication of Commotions,

Wars, and (perhaps) of Civil Wars. If it move fast and soon decay, 'tis a Sign Gods Wrath will come shortly and be short though it be sharp. The *8th.* Rule is drawn from the magnitude and form of the Comet, as well as from its Duration; for the greater that a Comet is, and the longer that it continueth, the more horrible are its effects and indications; if also its form or figure be with a Tail or Train, then it (as with a finger) pointeth out thereby that *Evil* is denounced against those Countries, especially towards which its Brush or Tail is extended, and the longer that the Train is, the longer will that evil be upon them: The *9th.* Rule is borrowed from the Celestial Houses wherein the Comet appeareth, for Comets are most obnoxious to those Countries over which they are either Vertical, or in whose Signs they are most seen: And to mention no more of those Celestial Signs or Houses (wherein this Comet is said to appear in its Retrograde motion,) Astrological Rules place. 1. *Norway, Bavaria, Fez,* &c. under *Scorpio,* in which Sign this Blazing-Star is said to have its first rise. 2. *Spain, Hungary,* &c. under *Sagittary.* 3. *Greece, Lithuania, Saxony,* &c. under *Capricorn.* 4. *Tartary, Russia, Swedeland,* &c. under *Aquarius.* 5. *Portugal, Galitia, Normandy* under *Pisces.* 6. *England, France, Germany* under *Aries*: I mention no more but these 6 Houses of Heaven (omitting the other 6,) because Mathematick Professors have observed this present Comet hath had some short residence in all these 6 Celestial Signs or Houses, first in *Scorpio,* and last in *Aries,* so that according to Astrological Rules) all those Countries and Cities which are placed under those 6 Signs aforenamed shall be affected and infected with the force and influence of this Blazing-Star, not only this and that Land, but even all those Lands over which it appeared, having extended it self over the greatest part of *Europe,* as well as other parts of the World, and perhaps its effects may begin in those Countries over which its appearance (or rather existence) began: while this Comet was in *Scorpio,* though it then did exist, yet could it not appear, being then hid in the Beams of the Sun, yet going down before the Sun, and shooting its Rays and Stream of Fire (as it were) against the Sun, which posture of a Comet (say Astrologers) doth always portend the Fall of great men, but this Comet having its Retrograde motion into, and some short stay and scituation in those 6 several distinct Signs (the Sun over-running it, and leaving it every Night farther and farther behind it) must have likewise some several and distinct Effects and Prognosticks, for (according to the Rules of this Art) a Comet 1. in *Scorpio* Prognosticateth Wars and Worldly Changes, Drought and Dearth, Robbery by Land, Piracy by Sea, Miscarriage of Women with Child, *&c.* 2. a Comet in *Sagittary* signifies Losses, Crosses to Great men, great contentions about Civil and Sacred things, malignant Feavers, and much Mortality. 3. In *Capricorn,* it portends Murders, Massacres, Thefts, Plague and Famine, Death of Princes by Poyson, all despite against Religion and

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the Religious. 4. In *Aquarius*, a Comet preſages long Wars, great Cruelties, Terrible Thunders and Lightnings, Famine, Peſtilence, Rot and Murrain. 5. In *Piſces*, it foreſhews contention about Civil Rights, *as Men*, Diviſion about Sacred Truths *as Chriſtians*; unnatural Relations among Superiors, Inferiours and Equals, uncivil and (it may be) civil Rebellions, ſcarcity of Fiſh, and great loſſes both at Sea and Land, *&c.* 6. A Comet in *Aries* foretelleth Diſeaſes in the Head natural, and diſcompoſures in the head political (as this Sign is the *Head* of all the twelve Signs) as likewiſe the Death of thoſe that are *Heads* of Families, of Corporations, of Cities, of Countries and of Kingdoms. Now this preſent Comet having had its Stage and Theatre in all thoſe 6 aforeſaid Signs, may poſſibly Prognoſticate all thoſe evils aforeſaid to befal ſome of thoſe Regions ſeated under all thoſe Signs which it hath run through betwixt its riſe in *Scorpio*, and its ſailure in *Aries*. According to my beſt Intelligence, this Comet took its firſt Flame by the *hot Beams* of the *Sun* (before it was gone out of the Sign *Scorpio*) wherewith it had its Conjunction, and wherein it had its abſconding (for ſome time from the Sight of men, and likewiſe it loſt its laſt Flame (according to my ſtrict Obſervation) by the *cold Beams* of the *Moon*, even the Half Moon, wherewith it met about the middle of this Month *January*: Foreign Letters do fully teſtify that this Comet waded out of the Sun-beams (wherein it firſt lay hid) much ſooner in other Countreys beyond Sea, than it did in our Land, ſo that it muſt have its *Exiſtence* (if not its *Appearance* in the Month of *November*, continuing all *December* until the 16 of *January*, the Time of its *Diſappearance*. This Comet (beſides its *Diurnal motion*, wherein the Sun (that race-running Champion) did daily over-run it) had its *Retrograde motion*, wherein it marcheth backward farther and farther on the Eaſt ſide from the Sun, and neerer to our *Zenith*, or point of the Heavens directly over our heads, before the attaining of which point it vaniſhed out of ſight; ſo that in this backward motion it fulfilled a marvellous courſe, from nigh to *Cor Scorpij* (where it had its firſt being and beginning in this Northern Hemiſphere. From *Scorpio* this Comet advanceth almoſt all along the Æquinoctial Circle through the Solſtitial colure by the *Milky way* into *Sagittary*, and by *Antinous* and the *Dolphin* into *Capricorn*, ſo by *Cygnus*, *Æquuleus* and *Pegaſus* (ſtriking through the Tropick of *Cancer*, it came into *Aquarius*, and ſo (croſſing the colure Æquinoctial) it paſſed into *Piſces* neer to the Southern line, and from thence into *Aries*, in which 6*th*. Sign I laſt ſaw it, where this *Aries*, or (as the word ſignifies) the *Battering Ram*, did (as it were) batter down both the Star and its Blaze quite out of Sight. Indeed the long Blaze or Tail of this Comet extended it ſelf to many other Conſtellations (beſides theſe aforenamed,) as *Aquila*, *Lyra*, *Cepheus*, *Andromeda*, the *Triangle*, *Caſſiopeia*, *Meduſa*'s head, even to *Auriga* and *Capella*, as if it had been a Meſſenger ſent to viſit all the moſt famous

mous Conſtellations in the full half part of the Northern Hemiſphere: The laſt appearance I had of it, was this, its Train (then weaning away) darted it ſelf forth betwixt *Caſſiopeia* and the *Pleiades* (or 7 Stars) facing (as it were) the *Bulls Eye* and bright *Jupiter* himſelf (who was then in that Sign of the *Bull*) yea and that moſt Glorious Conſtellation (of all others) to wit, *Orion*, with both the Greater and the Leſſer *Dog-Star*.

A more particular Deſcription both of the Star it ſelf, and of its Train ſeemeth neceſſary to the fuller *Explication*, before we can come to the *Application* of All, and 1, concerning the *Star it ſelf*, I do find it was a *Phænomenon* found in various Complexions, which perhaps its ſeveral Paralaxis or differing ſcituations might occaſion. The firſt Account we had of it, was from the Mathematick Profeſſor at *Hamburgh* who ſaith he took his proſpect of it in his Tube, and therein ſaw the Comet (it ſelf) to be fiery and glowing like the flames of a Bakers Oven 2. Other Artiſts (that have viewed it by their Teleſcopes) ſay they ſaw it of a bright, ſplendid colour; as the former Aſpect was from *Mars*, and ſo it was a Martial Star (which it might well be, while it had the Tincture of the firſt Sign, wherein it firſt exiſted, for *Cor Scorpij* hath the ſame complexion with the Planet *Mars*, of a red and fiery colour) ſo this latter was from *Jupiter*, which made the Comet a Jovial Star, portending Jovial or Joyful things, as the former doth War and Blood-ſhed, The 3*d*. Accompt we have from Foreign Mathematicians is, that at its firſt appearance it had a mixture of divers colours, which it borrow'd from *Mercury*, ſo became a Mercurial Star, and betokening a mixture of differing Diſpenſations, of good as well as of evil; but the 4*th*. and moſt univerſal Proſpect of it was, that it hath been of a dusky and leaden complexion from its firſt appearance to its laſt diſappearance, this colour it borrows from *Saturn* (as is ſaid before) and makes it a Saturnine Star, of the moſt ſullen influence of all the three other Planets aforenamed; ſo that no leſs than 4 Planets are (as it were) called in to the compoſition of this Comet, and though ſome doubt may be made concerning the 3 former, to wit, *Mars*, *Jupiter* and *Mercury*, yet none can queſtion this laſt the 4*th*. of them, inaſmuch as many Millions of eye-witneſſes do unanimouſly concur that for a long time to its laſt extinguiſhing, it had no other complexion but that of *Saturn*, the ſignification whereof cannot be good, as the Satyrical Poet repreſents him in this Hexaſtich.

Pale and of Aſhy colour, Male-content,
A Cataline to Mortal Temperament,
That would blow up the Capitol of Man,
With Envious Influence, Melancholy, Wan,
And if Ill hate *be in an Heavenly Breaſt,*
This Planet *with that* Fury *is poſſeſt.*

The

The 2*d*. Description is of its Tail or Train, which some Foreign Artists discovered by their Tubes and Telescopes to be red and fiery all along from the body of the Star (which then to them appeared red as before,) but it was pale towards the end of the Stream, having the resemblance of those long Streamers, which Men of War (Ships of the first Rate) do carry with them; so that 1, As to its *Colour* which was *Red* at the beginning, and *pale* at the end of it, and 2. as to its *Resemblance* of a War-Streamer, it plainly portends as if the *Red Horse* [*War*] should Usher in the *pale Horse* [*Death*] which 2 colours the Seal-Prophecy mentioneth, *Revel*. 6. 4. 8. *War* is commonly accompanied with Fire and Blood, 2 *King*. 3. 22. Isa. 9. 5. and 63. 1. 3. and *Death* is commonly called *pallida Mors*, as it causeth a paleness of face. And if there were no Deception of Sight in those who call this Saturnine Comet a black Star (such as Chronology speaketh of) then may it also denote the *Black Horse* in that Seal Prophecy. *Rev*. 6. 7. to wit, *Famine*, which discoloureth and denigrateth the Countenance, as *Lam*. 4. 8. but whatsoever was the *Colour* of the Train, all conclude (even from ocular Demonstration) that it was *pale*, and the portent thereof is bad enough; yet 3. as to the *Length* of this Streamer, it was conspicuous to every common eye to have a most prodigious extent, so that whether we take it, 1. as Gods *Sweeping Broom*, or 2. as Gods *Swinging Rod*, or 3. As Gods *flaming Sword* (as in the first Sheet) it evidently declares that the great God hath great punishing Instruments, either to *sweep* away, or to *swinge*, or to *slash* and *slay* his Adversaries, Those that took the Longitude of this Train by *Jacobs Staff*, &c. give us this Account, that the true dimension of its *Blaze* or *Tail*, was about 70 Degrees in Longitude, now suppose (as is generally supposed) that every particular Degree is 60 miles, then the *Train* of this Comet by this very computation, must be no less than about 4270 miles long, yet considering the height of its scituation, as the magnitude of a Planet, so the longitude of this Comet (in its Streamer) is much more than can be taken by the best sight or prospect. The latitude or breadth of this Tail is computed by Artists also to be no less than 2 Degrees, which amounts unto an 120 miles, oh then what a Prodigious Streamer must this be, that is 4270 miles long, and an 120 miles broad. In longitude it excelleth all *Europe* (which from *St. Vincent* in *Portugal* to *Constantinople*, bears but 3800 miles) and in latitude it exceedeth the Northern part of *England*, and every part of *Scotland* or *Ireland*.. This introduceth the 2*d*. part, to wit, the *Application*. It is therefore very incongruous and unchristian, yea rather bruitish and barbarous for any *Mortal man* to despise or deride such a prodigious piece of work from the *Immortal God* (as is longer than the 4*th* part of the World, and broader than many Countries and Kingdoms) As some Princes of the World have lately done at this *Comet*, as it is reported

Ported of them: 'Tis writ, the *French* King frothily despised and derided this present *Comet*, saying, *It had spoiled his sport at a grand Ballet (or Dance (composed with much curiosity, for his Sons* (the Dauphins) *Diversion, when it was privately proved before him it pleased him well, but when it came to be publickly performed in his presence before his Nobles and Ladies of Honour, there happened a Baffle in the Actors, which did frustrate his expectation, hereupon he jeeringly scoffed that the Influence of the Comet was fallen upon his Dance to spoil it, possibly before its portents pass away, it may (in good earnest) foil and spoil more of the* French *Dances*. 'Tis storied of *Vespasian*, that he scorn'd an *Hairy Comet* shining in his Sight, saying it concerned the King of *Parthia* who wore *long Hair*, and not himself who would not were any long Wiggs, (which this very blaze may possibly scorch) so it denounced no woe to him; notwithstanding he soon after-smarted, for his jesting with Gods edge-tools. Any despight done to a mans work is a despight done to the Work-man himself, 'tis God *that Works Signs and Wonders in Heaven and Earth*, Dan. 6. 27. Such as are *Despisers* of Gods *Signs and Wonders*, God will make them for *Signs* and *Wonders* in the World, *Act*. 13. 41. *Deut*. 28. 46. Thus God hanged up *Pharaoh* (as it were) in Gibbets, as a Sign and Wonder to the World, because he despised Gods Signs and Wonders in the World. Something of this Divine Wrath *Philip* the 1. King of *Spain* did feel, when he took no warning at a *Blazing-Star*, sent (it seems) to foreshew his Death, which followed soon after, and when he lay in his dying Agonies, he continued crying out [*Ha Cometa, Ha Cometa*, &c.] *I took no warning by thee*; but *Charles* the Great, (or *Ludovicus Pius* his Son, as some say) did better who did Fear at the Sight of a great Comet, blazing out before him, and when *Egmundus* his Astrologer (unwilling to see his Prince sad, urged to him *Jer*. 10. 2. *That he should not be dismayed at those Signs*, &c. he prudently and piously answered, It was not the Sign (the Comet) but the maker of that Sign (God himself) that he *feared*, yet would he praise God for his tender clemency (withal) in Rebuking their sluggishness with those his Signs. They were not Fools but wise men that said *we have seen his Star in the East*, Math. 2. 2. 'twas a Star of Christs making, as well as *leading* to him, Where a *Blazing Star* led them to the *Sun of Righteousness*, Mal. 4 2.

Mortals in Vain did never Gaze,
When Comets did in Heaven Blaze.

Besides what I have said in the Chronology of Comets aforementiond (all fore-warnings of following Evils) a little may be added, *to wit*. 1. Soon after that Comet in the year 1337. with its very long Train, the French burnt *Southampton*, and did much more mischief upon the Coasts of *England*. 2. Soon after that in the year 1440. followed

here

here, the Barons Wars twixt *York* and *Lancaster*; God bleſs us from the like 'twixt *York* and *Monmouth*. And 3. Soon after that Star which appeared in the year 1580. The Rebellion broke out in *Ireland*, through the Popes Inſtigation, who ſent *Italians* and *Spaniards* to aſſiſt the Iriſh (againſt Queen *Eliſabeth* in the 22 year of her Reign, *October* the 8. God bleſs us from the like Eruption now. Here withal take a little enlargement upon that Star in *Caſſiopea* 1572. (aforeſaid) which gave Caution and Counſel to *Charles* the 9th of *France* (the Author of the Maſſacre at *Paris*) as likewiſe did *Beza* in his Poem concluding thus,

Tu verò, Herodes, Sanguinolente, Tame.

Yet this bloody Prince (another *Herod*) took no warning, but firſt wallowed in the Blood of Proteſtants, and at laſt God plagu'd him with ſuch an eruption of Blood in his own Body (then full of Blood, being in the flower of his Age) that he wallowed in his own Blood and was alſo Choaked with it. And upon that Comet in the year 1618. which foreran the Deſolations of *Germany*, God bleſs us from the like Deſolations: the Biſhop of *Spalata* (that Turn-Coat, as bad as he was) ſaid of that very Comet, that it was no Phantaſtick Phenomenon, but Real and Significant, a true Exhalation, Inflamed, and no Deception of ſight about it: I would to God we did not exerciſe wild Fancies more than ſolid Judgment about theſe Prodigies, as this *Comet*, the fiery falling Bullet, and other Apparitions moſt Dreadful (of a Northern and Southern Army fighting in the Air, &c.) according to credible Information: Alas *we know not the Signs of the Times*. Math. 16.3. Luke. 21. 11. and Act. 2.9. Such as *Dubartas* deſcribeth in his *Dodekaſtick*, or 12. Verſes ſhewing how all Prodigies prognoſticate manifold Evils unto perſons and places of all Ranks and Qualities.

Here in the Night appears a flaming Spire,
There a fierce Dragon folded all in Fire,
Here a bright Comet, there a fiery Stream,
Here flying Lances, there a burning Beam;
Here ſeems an Horned Goat environd Round
With Fiery Flakes about the skie to bound,
There with long Bloody Hair, a Blazing Star,
Threatning the World with Famine, Plague and War:
To Princes Death, to Kingdoms many Croſſes,
To all Eſtates inevitable Loſſes,
To Herdſmen Rots, to Plowmen hapleſs Seaſons,
To Sailers ſtorms, to Cities civil Treaſons.

If we conſult *viz. Paradigms*, or Examples, as we have hitherto *Apothegms* or Aſtrological Rules (which are the *Placits* of Aſtrologers and (poſſibly) are onely *ad placitum* to be received) with the other in the Chronology, it may portend either one of, or ſome of, yea all of thoſe Evils which they portended, not onely to other Lands but alſo to

our Land, over which it was almost Vertical in *Perseus* and *Medusa's* Head when it Vanished: *Sed manum de Tabula, ne Caldaizare videar*, I withdraw my hand, least I should seem to speak like a *Caldean*, whom it better becomes to speak like a Christian and like a Gospel-Minister wherewith I shall Conclude. The *Men of Issachar* were in great account with David. *(literal)* who had *Understanding of the Times, and did know what Israel ought to do.* 1 Chron. 12. 32. *A prudent man foreseeth an evil and hideth himself*, Prov. 22. 3. He foreseeth it not by any unlawful Divination, or by Gazing as common Star-Gazers in their Unwarantable Judiciary Astrology do) but by a Judicious observation of those extraordinary Beacons which the wonder-working God fireth in the Firmament (which he never doth but to give warning that some mischief is ready to make an Invasion.) As also by a solid Collection and Connection of causes and consequents: as, *If God be the same that ever*, as Holy, Just, Powerful, *&c.* and, *If Sin be the same that ever*, as foul, loathsome, and God-provoking, *&c.* Then such effects and events will follow such causes and courses: As there be natural signs (sometimes) of an ensuing Judgment which prudent thinking Men can readily discover. If *Elias* see but a Cloud (though no bigger than a mans hand) come from the Top of *Carmel*, he can tell that it will cover the whole Heavens as with a black Curtain, and that a great Rain will follow after, 1 *Kin.* 18. 44. 45. The most tender Tempers are most sensible of the change of Weather. A *Moses* (who converseth with God (as a man with his Friend) is quick-sighted, and espies Gods wrath at its first setting forth. *Numb.* 16. 46. The more faithful and familiar that men are with God, the sooner do they see his wrath arising and running forth: were we such, and had we *our Eyes in our Heads*, as wise men. *Eccles.* 2. 14. and *Understood we the Times*, as those of *Issachar* did, knowing, by a singular Sagacity, both what is to be done, and when to do it, we shall be of great Account with our *David Spiritual*, and may yet Retrieve, Retrench and Redeem some part (at least) of those evils that are *Imminent* over us, before they be *Incumbent* on us: It remaineth that we ply our Spiritual Oars and Row hard as did the Disciples. *Joh.* 6. 19. our Jesus will certainly come to us, though sent we be both in the *Deep*, (so as we cannot feel bottom) and in the *Dark*, so as we cannot see Shore; though the *Child be come to the Birth and there is not strength to bring forth*, 2 *Kings* 19. 3. yet Christ will come and Midwise it into the World, and after this *Day of Rebuke*, will bring his Spouse into his Wine-Cellar under his Banner of Love and will draw out his best Wine (which he reserved last) for her even the promises of the latter day: which shall be as *Life from the Dead*, *Rom.* 11. 15. even so come Lord Jesus come quickly. *Cito, Citius, Citissime, bimera, beiamenu.* Soon and in our Days. So prays C. N. FINIS.

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